

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Calahorra. a 2 de Julio de 1949.

R.P. Juan Luis de Ellacuría. Los Angeles. U.S.A.

Mi queridísimo e inolvidable Juan Luis: Sea Dios bendito y santificadas nuestras almas.

Te escribo para que me descifres esta incógnita en que me encuentro: He preguntado y escrito por doquiera sobre la maquinita de escribir que me remitías mediante el P. Basilio Frisón y nadie sabe darme razón de nada. Puede ser que el P. Frisón no la pudiera coger... Puede ser que la haya dejado a alguien de su confianza para entregármela; puede ser que me haya escrito y se haya extraviado la carta...; en fin, conjeturo cualquier cosa, porque yo sé que el P. Frisón es muy hombre y formal y no comprendo esto. También puede ser que alguien del Gobierno General se haya interpuesto para quedarse con la máquina, diciendo que a mí se me sirva otra... etc, etc. Lo cierto es que quiero saber cuanto antes lo que haya de real sobre esto. Si está la maquinita en el convento de Monjas de Nueva York, me agenciaré la traída como el Señor me dé a entender.

Si la maquinita vino a España, no estará de más que me indicaras algunas características tuyas, para que no me la cambien.

Ya siento el tener que molestarte sobre asunto tan decantado.

Hoy mismo pongo en conocimiento de un sobrino del expadre Juan José Uriarte la tragica historia de su tío, para que hagan lo se les alcance humanamente, para conseguir su difícilísima conversión. Estuve hablando con el P. Emaldia y me satisfizo cuanto me dijo de tí sobre santificación. ¡Aurrera beti! Te abraza con todo cariño tu hermano,

José María de Ellacuría
claret

P.D.: Te ruego una contestación rápida.

Sunday evening, July 10.1949

Reverend and dear Father ,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the minutes of our last meeting. As you can see from them there were only four of us present, but we felt nevertheless that it was a real success. We let Henrietta Howard tune in on our meeting and reading over the telephone, because she was so very anxious to be with us and she enjoyed it ver much; in fact her husband asked her if he might listen to some of it. She wanted him to hear especially what you told us at our last meeting, when you Enthroned the Sacred Heart, so I send her a copy of your talk. This seems like a very good sign, that this noncatholic man, wishes to hear or read such things.

Now may I please use this opportunity to tell you just a little about myself ? My heart is full of things to tell you and to ask you, but I will try to tell you the most important. I meant to tell you already in my last letter that I had much to suffer from temptations of pride or vanity, but mostly the spiritual kind, and often I can't hardly distinguish between temptation and sin. It seems as if there was a third person present whenever I pray; God, myself and this voice. So often, when I am in an mental or perhaps infused prayer, I am annoyed with this voice of pride; I try to shake it off the moment I feel it, but it keeps coming right back, although I tell myself how very unworthy I am to receive this consolation of this kind of prayer or any other consolation my Lord may grant me. The other night when I was trying to collect myself ^{and to pray} after a busy day, I had to suffer greatly, before I found peace. The best method to find this peace that I have found so far, is to make a spiritual Communion. This usually brings me

not only peace, but a glowing happiness. My real Communions are becoming sweeter and sweeter and I can hardly wait from one day to the next.

I would have liked to ask you if it is good for me, or not, to read about the "Luminative" and "Unitive" Age of the Interior Life in our new books? Perhaps I should wait until our Lord shows me these things himself through enlightenment by the Holy Ghost? I read some of it and it thrilled me so much, that I have a desire to read some of the other works that were referred to in them, like St. Teresia's Mansions etc. Could you answer me this? All I really wish, is to be wholly united to God, no matter what it costs me. -- I am so very grateful to our good Jesus, for drawing me closer to him every day. After holy Mass and Communion I find it very hard to leave him to go home; I feel myself drawn toward our Lord in the tabernacle as if by force almost, but it ^{is} the kind of a force you love.

It hurts me to share my love between God and my husband sometimes. Here I probably would need some advice also. Because after every visit from my husband I become terribly saddened, and it takes me a day or 2 to find real peace and the nearness of God, or rather the intimacy with our Lord. I'm trying very hard to help myself in this, but I hope we will have a chance soon to talk to you and get your direct answer. In the meantime may I ask you to please pray for me, that I may find the answers to these things through the Holy Spirit, if this be his will.

I am enclosing a small envelope from the Sister of Mrs. Zuniga, and also \$ 2.- for Masses for Mr. Kramer to be said in the name of the Holy Name Society in our parish, and \$1.- also for a mass for Mr.

Kramer that I promised myself, to Mrs. Kramer. Thank you very much,
but I thank God especially for having directed me to you.
I greet you through the Hearts of Jesus and Mary of our
obedient spir. daughter Maria R.

Saint Patrick Academy
Mokence, Illinois

J.M.J.

July 10, 1949

Rev. Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.,
Immaculate Heart Novitiate,
Los Angeles, 6, California.

Rev. dear Father:

This letter will be just a short S.O.S. to ask for special prayers. I was scheduled to make the retreat in Beaverville but on Friday morning, the day before the Mokence retreat opened, Reverend Mother told me I would make this retreat. She told me that I would make it in obedience. The odds have been against me on all sides - however, I accepted Rev. Mother's decision and determined to do my best to make a good retreat. I am exhausted physically, mentally, and spiritually. My conscience has been very much upset and disturbed. I do not care for our retreat master personally. He is a very saintly priest and an excellent religious - however, he does not appeal to me in any way. I realize that God's grace can overcome all difficulties provided only we accept His Will. I am trying to do so but how well I am succeeding, only He knows. I have wanted to write to you for some time but could not bring myself to do so. Perhaps during this retreat, I may be able to do so.

Are you acquainted with the book entitled " SPIRITUAL RETREAT WITH THE LITTLE FLOWER " By Father Liagre, S.S.Sp. I received it for Christmas and it has impressed me very much, particularly the chapter on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Father compares the teaching of Ven. Father Liberman with that of the little Flower on the question of humility and confidence. As I read and re-read and meditated on that chapter, I felt it was all what you had been telling me right along. I wanted to write to you at the time but as you see, I did not do so.

The past year has been a most difficult one and the

Saint Patrick Academy
Mokenca, Illinois

- 2 -

new school year promises to be no better. I have hated naturally practically all that I did last year. Must I continue year after year? I would so want to be relieved of all responsibility - councillor, supervisor, and principal. The numerous duties seem impossible of fulfillment - I simply cannot do anyone of them as they should be done. Rev. Mother does not seem to understand - she seems to think that I am just running away from difficulties. May I not have your permission to ask to be relieved?

I am happy for Sister Imelda that she has had the opportunity of seeing you and I can imagine how much good you have done her. She has certainly gone through much suffering and I am happy for her that God has given her this grace.

I am happy also for Michael Cody for his privilege in making his perpetual vows. I think Sister Imelda and Sister Marie Therese will probably be present for the ceremony. Kindly remember me to Mickey and offer him my congratulations. I have written to him.

I am enclosing some Mass stipends which I would appreciate your taking care of for me when convenient. I know that I can count on your prayers. Rest assured, also, of my constant prayers for you and your many intentions. I have missed your letters the past year and trust that you may find some time to write occasionally for your help has meant so much to me. I would give anything to be able to have a good talk with you and make my retreat confession. Thanking you and begging your blessing, I remain

Gratefully in Him

Sister Mary Dolores
S. S. C. M.

MISIONEROS HIJOS
DEL
INMACULADO CORAZON DE MARIA
CALAHORRA

TEL. 54

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

A II de Julio de 1949.

R.P. Juan Luis de Ellacuría. LOS ANGELES.

Mi inolvidable Juan Luis: Hoy te escribo sin otro motivo más que el remitirte por correo marítimo unas cuantas fotos. Te seguiré escribiendo con frecuencia por correo aéreo, para comunicarte mis principales impresiones.

La foto de las jóvenes van señalados unos cuantos números. El 1 corresponde a María Luisa; el 2 a Milagros; el 3 a María la de U-dagoiti que vino con los tíos de la Argentina; el 4 a la prima Lola, hija de la tía María de Argentina; el 5 a Mary Tere; el 6 a Natichu.

Te remito también una de las fotos generales que sacamos en las fiestas de San Cristóbal, el pasado año. Donde me encontrarás algo mejor que en esa foto general, será en la sacada en la Comunidad de Villagarrita de Arosa. He hecho, como muestra, una ampliación de esta foto, ampliación que está tomada en aumento 15 veces. Cuando a mí me abruman mis ratos críticos, en que no me es dado ni orar ni estudiar, la foto me absorbe toda la imaginación... Es para mí un gran sedante y me ayuda en gran manera al silencio recolecto de mi cuarto. Cada vez admiro más aquella disposición del Rmº. P. Xifré, sobre la estancia obligatoria durante tres o cuatro meses y en casa, sin otro quehacer más que atender al espíritu. ¡Es tan diferente el mundo de la vida claustral...!

Otras fotos no necesitan comentario.

Repartí tus fotos a la familia y todos quedaron entusiasmados con ellas.

Adiós, pñr hoy y pide mucho al Señor, para que el Señor haga de mí un gran Misionero. Te quiere tu hermano,

*José María
Aur*

Los Angeles, July 18.1949

Reverend and dear Father Provincial,

The actual members of our Heart of Mary Claretian Guild wish to congratulate you and your community upon the glorious Feast of the Centennial of the founding of your Congregation by your saintly Father Bl. Anthony Mary Claret, and at the same time thank you for your kind invitation to that wonderful solemn Pontifical Highmass of Thanksgiving at St. Vibiana's Cathedral last saturday. Our members were thrilled and happy to be present at this magnificent celebration.

At our last meeting we were told by Mrs. Lou Rose of a day of special prayer that was to be held by all the Claretians, so that a favorable decision will be made in regard to the Canonization of your Blessed founder in Rome on tuesday. We immediately passed a resolution to join with the Claretian Fathers in this special day of prayer, including all our works and sufferings of this day.

May we take this opportunity to thank you and your secretary for the Apostolic Blessing, you brought with you for us from the Holy Father; we will always try to be worthy of this great privilege. We would like to thank you also for the precious first class Relic of Blessed Anthony Clare; we hope to gain many blessings and graces for our members and their friends through it. The beautiful medals blessed by the Holy Father were received by our members with joy and they wish to thank you also for everything.

With the help and guidance of our spiritual director Father Aloysius we will endeavor to give the Novitiate as much support as possible, both in a material and spiritual way.

We beg your blessing and remain very respectfully through the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Heart of Mary Claretan Guild

Maria Felt
secretary.

Saint Patrick Academy
Moline, Illinois

J.M.J.

July 20, 1949

Rev. Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.,
Immaculate Heart Novitiate,
Los Angeles, California.

Rev. dear Father:

This letter will be another S.O.S. asking for prayers - this time, however, for the grace of a happy death for our dear Alice Harding. Alice is very critically ill; she has had severe hemorrhages during the past two weeks and has been anointed. She is suffering morally very much; she feels her life has been such a failure. She is resigned to God's will, however, and wishes only what He wishes. I saw her yesterday and had a lovely visit with her. God seems to have stripped her of everything - and she is suffering such loneliness of heart and soul. She longs for Holy Communion but even though she is only a block or so from the Church, the priests do not bring her Holy Communion very frequently. It seems too bad that at least this should not be denied her. I do not see how she can pull through this time and I sincerely hope she does not. She has always said that the moment of her death will be the happiest moment of her life. I told her I would write to you and let you know of her illness. I asked what message she wished to send. She told me to tell you that she remembers you in prayer constantly; she begs for your prayers and especially a memento in your Holy Sacrifice. She is ready for death if God wishes to take her. I hope that you will find time to drop her a little word - she has been deprived of so much that I know you will give her this consolation if you can. My visit to her impressed me deeply - and many memories came back of our frequent visits together. Our friendship for over thirty years now has been a spiritual friendship and has meant much to both of us.

Saint Patrick Academy
Mokence, Illinois

May I ask you to be kind enough to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for her and beg our dear Lord to give her the courage and strength to continue her life of resignation to the end - and for the grace of a happy death.

As for myself, now, I wish that I could tell you all that has been going on within me. We had a very lovely retreat and I did my utmost to make a good retreat. The first half of it, however, I did not know what to do --- I did my utmost to follow all the exercises with fervor, attention, and devotion. I did not make my usual retreat confession and the review of the year. I could not. Neither did I go to confession to our retreat master - that I could not do, either. Father is very radical in many of his ideas - the first half of the retreat, I could scarcely stand him. I took notes for you as usual and will send them to you soon. Father had a very beautiful schedule worked on on OUR INCORPORATION WITH CHRIST through the mysteries of the holy rosary. I think you will enjoy his manner of working it out. His conferences on prayer were beautiful and when he spoke of contemplation, he was fairly out of this world. How the longing which I have had for years intensified itself and I desired more ardently than ever for this great grace! Am I never to attain it? As far as resolutions are concerned, the only one I could make was that of abandonment and conformity to His holy will in a spirit of loving confidence - my special practice to try to keep equanimity of spirit - with a smile at all times. I renewed my former resolutions with my practice of adoration.

You perhaps know that many changes will take place after the second retreat. I hate to see Mother St. Eugene leave us - we have become very close friends throughout the years. I would wish to be relieved of all responsibility - yet I know that I shall not. I feel in such a ~~new~~ turmoil of soul - I wish that peace would return - or that God would give me the grace to accept the desola-

-Viva Cristo Rey!

Calahorra. A 23 de Julio de 1949.

R.P. Juan Luis de Ellacuría.

Querido hermano:

No llego la contestación tuya a mis dos anteriores, que su-

pongo obraran en tu poder. Hoy me apresuro a escribirte, principalmente por el

triste motivo de enterarte del estado de nuestra bonísima Madre. Ayer, 22 de

Julio, tuvo que ir a buscarla nuestro sobrino Pachito, quien la trajo a Bilbao

en su coche. Hoy me han telefonado, dándome cuenta de que, si no hubieran teni-

do una inyección, para reanimar el corazón, que ciertamente que ayer se hubiera

quedado cadáver. Se encuentra en casa de Marcelina, donde no le faltaran aten-

ciones y calor de cariño. No tengo porque recordarte que tienes que rogar por

ella con todo interés.

Antes de empezar a darte las noticias de los familiares,

quiero prevenirte sobre lo de la máquina. Supongo que algo anormal ha sucedido

respecto de ella; no te apures en lo más mínimo. ¿Que se ha perdido la máquina?

Aunque así sea, más se perdió en Roma...! Me supongo lo peor: para que veas

que no le doy importancia alguna. Desde luego, de haberla recibido, mucho me

hubiera alegrado; pero, no ha llegado y alguna vez tenemos que ser hombres!

Así es que me quedo tan tranquilo. Eso sí: quiero saber lo que ha pasado, para

atenerme a lo seguro. La que manejo, me costo hace 14 años 200 pesetas y todavía

a puede seguir y ya me hare con otra buena, si Dios quiere; que ha to me ha ben

decido Dios.

Describo el estado de nuestra madrecita, solamente me resta

girar un pequeño rededor del Caserio de Orue, que nos viera nacer.

Nuestra cuñada esta en el empeño de hacer una gran casa nueva; parece que le

cuesta decidirse. Los sobrinos de allí siguen creciendo con la dureza de la

vida que tu ya conoces. Verdaderamente son dignos de mejor suerte, sobre todo,

abundando en dinero, como realmente tienen.

Miguel y María. Tanto Miguel como María van teniendo de

vez en cuando algunos aduiciones, aunque de poca importancia. Tuvieron un

gran acierto al dedicarse al cine de Galdáano. Acier to económico: en lo espi-

ritual, no creo que te engañen grandes responsabilidades, según se explican ellos. No hay que fiarse demasiado, porque la pasión y, sobre todo, la pasión del dinero ciega fácilmente; esto puede sucederles también a nuestros hermanos de Galdácano. Les he dicho que ensanchen y agranden la casa, con objeto de que puedan casarse en la misma al gordo o al gordo de los sobrinos. La razón se evidencia: María Luisa dice que no se casa, porque nunca ha de ser más feliz que en su propia casa; desde luego, tiene mucha razón, porque ahora en verdadera mente felices, gracias a Dios.

María Luisa. Tiene en la actualidad 26 años rebasaditos. Tiene novio desde los 15 años. Estoy cansado de advertirle que se case. Siempre la misma respuesta: "Nunca he de ser más feliz de lo que soy actualmente..." Le replico: "Si espérate, déjate de una vez de novios; porque esa razón te asistirá siempre...; mientras vivas en tus padres. Y cuando ellos hayan muerto, entonces te buscas algún tuerto o algún majadero, golfo o vividor, que quiera vivir, a costa de lo que tú ganes..." No hay quien le haga convenza. Se lo repiten el párroco el Alcalde y muchos amigos míos y de ellos; sin embargo, todos es tiempo per-

didado, te empleados en convencerles del próximo casamiento. Mira, gracias a Dios, se le ha curado el hueso, aun antes de que nos lo pudieramos imaginar. Ella cree que se trata de un gran favor del cielo; en particular, de la Virgen de Begona. Tiene un novio gallego, que parece muy bueno. Esta brina nuestra tiene la manía de pensar que los chicos ricos que han pretendido en no la pueden querer, como los modestos de posición.

Dice que los ricos suelen dar bastante mal resultado; así es que, ha desaprovechado en este sentido varias proporciones, que, en lo humano eran excelentes. Apruebo este proceder de Milagritos, porque la veo completamente desprendida de los intereses humanos, examinados como tales. Pero, tal vez, ello consiste en la ignorancia de las dificultades de la vida; porque el pasado año, con ocasión de su veraneo en Calahorra, ya te conté que no hacía más que añorar su casa y el recuerdo de su madre, como si se tratara de una cría de pocos años. Esta también, al estilo de su hermana, no tiene ni muestra intenciones en casarse, por no separarse de las faldas de la Madre; con todo, bien les ha gustado trastear con chicos y alternar en los bailes; como que no han querido tomar parte en el Accion Católica de Galdácano, porque ya sabrás que

así que en España, las de Acción Católica, no pueden formar parte en los bailes.

Desde luego, aunque sea como inciso y aun admitiendo (como así lo creo) que el baile es lo peor que hay, la razón de estar tan enfermiendo la A.C. en España es entre otras similares, esta de prohibirles el baile. Así es que, las componentes de la Acción Católica, son preferentemente y predominantemente, las de defectos notables, como cheposas, tuerzas, maritornes de feas, etc. ¿Como quieren que abandonen el baile, sin percatarse ellas de su extrema gravedad? Y como se habrán de instruir sobre los peligros que encierra y la obligatoriedad de evitarlos, si antes no han formado su conciencia con la asistencia a las enseñanzas y sesiones de la Acción Católica...? Por eso que encuentro algo antagonista con la sensata práctica, esta de prohibir como un odio eliminativo, el baile. Y siguiendo con el tema, nuestras prohibiciones no las he podido convencer tampoco de que militen en la A.V. En cambio, es una rezadora y devota; tiene verdadero honor a todo pecado; aborrece la lujuria, el vicio detestable de la murmuración y delante de ella no se puede articular palabra de censura contra nadie, así sea el mas indeseable. ¡Que buena manera de monja tenía...! Pero así sea la Acción Católica es interesante y saludable. En conversaciones de su curso, todos mas y ellos o mayores que él, se obtienen las primeras calificaciones, teniendo, además, en cuenta que solo aprobaron dos o tres las asignaturas; y es que en España cada vez se aprueba mucho mas en ciertas carreras, por haberse multiplicado los concussantes y estudiosos, para cubrir vacantes, que años atrás pudieron ser muchas, pero que ahora son cada diez menos fáciles de conseguirse, por haber sido ya cuebieras y con opositores, que si bien las obtuvieron con facilidad, difícilmente ~~una~~ abandonan su colocación, porque la mayoría son muy jóvenes. La carrera que estudia es de tecnico mecánico que equivale en muchos ramos a la carrera de ingeniería. Creo que no le falta más que un año y tiene intención de rematar, la carrera de ingeniero, es la que pueden aspirar, con algunos años, (pocos) mas de estudios, que no te precisará. Actualmente se encuentra en el campamento en Zamora, haciendo los cursillos de Sargento de Complemento; el año siguiente hará los cursos de Alferez, de Complemento, graduación con que cumplirá seis meses en el Ejército y quedará clasificado en el Ejército Español; puede ascender, en caso de guerra o de movilización

civil o de militarización de empresa, donde él trabaje. Será fácil que ésta de militarización de su empresa le alcance, porque se están militarizando las de este género: ingeniería.

En Galdacano siguen en aquel chalet, algo pequeño que tú ya conoces. Solo ha sufrido pequeñas modificaciones, para tapar y disimular las grietas azules y blancas por una bomba que a 8 metros cayó cuando la guerra.

Maria Inisa es excelente modista y Juan Luis maneja en sus extremos, composuras y aplicaciones las máquinas de cine que tienen. Las máquinas de cine son de ellos. El local es alquilado.

Gracias a Dios, cada vez van mucho mejor. En los negocios les robaba mucho la servidumbre empleada en la tienda. Se lo advertí algunas veces a Pedro como a Poli; pero, solo ahora, cuando ya notan que, o a menos ventositas, sacan mayores ventajas, han caído en cuenta de ser cierto lo que yo les advertía. Poli sigue teniendo diferentes afecciones de enfermedad; más bien son tumores, que aquellos ataques que antes se le ocasionaban con dolor de riñones sea lo que fuere. Yo creo que la ha salvado, en parte, su miedo espantoso a las operaciones. Ahora está preocupada con las relaciones amorosas de Mary Teresa, en tal vez, casi tanto como ella misma. Tiene razón como madre y como interesada. Pedro ha estado enfermo de pulmonía y bastante grave. Salio muy bien y hasta ir con mejoramiento o enorme de carácter; que esto te sirva de satisfacción: el mejoramiento que los blancos (heí das de vino blanco) le ocasionaban estrechos trastornos y le conminó serianamente que si quería evitar la misma muerte próxima, no tenía mas remedio que privarse de estas bebidas, verdaderas pozimas para su constitución, cabeza y pulmones, sobre todo. Gracias a Dios, ha hecho caso y actualmente Poli está encantadísima de haberle podido conseguir el cambio de apotemperamento, cada día más afable y atrayente.

Maria Teresa. Haltaría a la verdad si te ocultara que ésta es la sobrina preferida por mí, entodo, porque creo que se lo merece por el adorno de sus variadas virtudes cívico-religiosas. Está conceptuada como una de las chicas mas apuestas y hermosas de Bilbao. Desde luego, algo tiene que ser, porque, de lo contrario, no se podría explicar su notabilísima atracción para los jóvenes y no jóvenes. Es casi increíble como sea todos los días se le presentaban, aun estando en Bilbao, pretendientes diferentes, sin dejar de forcejear los anteriores. De esto soy testigo. Los ha tenido de toda suerte: muy ricos, ricos, buenos, etc.

y atención tiene uno que se caloulao ser dueño de unos 400 millones de pesetas, por los menos, porque los heredó de una sola vez. Además, ya era rico anteriormente. Es muy católico y erudito y atento y es uno de los mas embobados con Mary Tere, pero, tiene algunos añitos de diferencia. Desde luego, para que veas lo que es Mary Tere, me dijo lo siguiente, cuando le pregunté a ver si se inclinaba por este, según me lo suponía yo: «si yo me caso con ese, mas que por mí es por arrancarle a mi Madre del trabajo de la tienda y mostrador...» Pregunta al Señor, para que la illumine. ¿quién sabe si el Señor tiene dispuesto de ella que se convierta en gran bienchora, repartiendo a manos llenas esos bienes que han de caer en ellas? Esta en la decisión de Mary Tere, después de Dios, el cambio de vida en el rumbo ordinario de su familia... Le Se encuentra sirviendo en aviación. Por influencias se consiguió que entrara en este cuerpo, que es el mas aristocrático y acondicionado de los del ejército español y por influencia también se consiguió su traslado al campo de Sondica, cerca de Bilbao. Todos los días le daban la comida de casa y ya a dar a mirar a su propio dormitorio. Me hubieran gustado mas que tuviera que probar el pan con amargo de los soldados ordinarios, para que aprendiera a discernir sobre las diferencias y dificultades de la vida. Llevar los rasgos físicos - moretes de la familia - que le interesa de cerca, recomponer fiscalia de Abastos, cuerpo del que habrás oído la referencias. Lo que es Julián Anastasio, cada vez me simpatizan menos, lo mismo que es sobrina Natividad. Esta, ha estado también este año en el Colegio de las Enseñanza de Orduña. Si quieres que te cuente mas cosas que te interesen, me lo digas. Vano teniendo cada vez mas suerte, de manera que, después de Poli, van caminando hacia la fortuna. Me olvidaba decirte que Julián y tendrá, según calculo nuestros, millón y medio de pesetas. Pero, no te descuides en escribir a Julián ningún detalle de éstos, porque esto ya conviene de que esa hermana nuestra no esta normal, es brevitado, desde que se dio a adelgazarse con recetas y pocimas nada recomendables para la salud... Marcelina es la mejor hija para su Madre y fué también la que mas le ayudó, retrasando su casamiento por tres años, por atenderla, durante la ausencia y enfermedades del difunto Ignacio.

-6-
Es un encanto de muchacho; muy cariñoso e inteligente. Lo único que le falta es un poco de experiencia. Ha hecho oposiciones para conseguir Be-
ca en Bilbao y lo único que se es que ha sacado excelente puntuación. Pedrito.
Es un temperamento intermedio de Angelchu y de Javierchu; inteligente, chistoso y
servicial. Marcelina puede estar encantada. Es el mejor amigo de la madre, aunque
económicamente le ayuda más quizá la Polita. Van adelantándose poco a poco, pero seguros. Tienen
Pacho y María Rita. Los dos hijos como dos soles... Robertam y abuelito al lado de los abuelos.
Santiaguito sigue interesándose por tus noticias... con él han
en cuenta a mí, no sabes lo que sentí la muerte del P. Lobo, con él han
quedado enteradas un montón de ilusiones mías... No pienso hacer que se edite mi
obra "Mi Recuerdo de Misión" hasta que se arreglen bastante muchas cosas. cosa
que se tardará bastante, por desgracia. Me resigno a lo que el Señor quiera. Ya
saldrá cuando sea sazón. Se ha suspendido el Cursillo de Misiones, en que iba a to-
mar parte con el tema: "Despedida de la Misión". Informes del Director a los Superi-
ores, informe al Sr. Obispo para el B. R.; reportaje para la prensa periódica"
cuando va a terminar o felizmente el trabajo con las cuantillas, me anuncian su
suspensión, quizá te diré en pasadas cartas, que había notado el agotamiento como
nunca, y es que el constante misión con intervenciones duras y mas de media do-
cena, muchas veces, aparte del confesionario, que es agotador, sobre todo para gar-
ganta y bronquitos, ya me he repuesto ampliamente de aquellos fatigasy de las que
me sorprende en la peregrinación de Fatima por Navarra. Esta fue grandiosa o
mejor, lo está siendo todavía. Ahora mismo que terminare esta tu carta, escribo al
Incomparable D. Barbarín. Me ha pedido insistente mente para su Comunidad de Pam-
plona; también yo me indicado que me gustaría un cambio, después del bien meditado
todo; pronto te dare mas amplia referencia sobre este extremo. Con la muerte de mi
querido P. Lobo, quedan truncadas mis ilusiones, por lo menos en su mayor parte.
Bendito sea Dios! Contodo, trabajaré con interés e infatigablemente. He descansa-
do este año como nunca, así como tambien el cansancio habia cuando mas agitador y
agotador: bronquitos, lastimados, voz fácilmente enronquecida, cansancio mental, etc.
Precisamente por descanso he tomado la novena de Corazón de Maria en Aranda del Duero
y unos Ejercicios Espirituales a las Siervas de Jesús en Castro Urdiales. Dí-
go los ejercicios que me regalaron la maquina, Mrs. CONFIELD, que les encomiendo
a todos. No tienen porque enterarse de que la maquina no ha llegado... por lo menos

J. M. J.

St. Patrick Academy
Mokenca, Illinois

July 23, 1949

Dear Father Ploysius:

It is so long since I have heard from you. I know that your time is very limited and that you are busy with many things but a little word from you would be appreciated very much.

In a couple of weeks I will make my retreat in Beaverville and then I will be leaving Mokenca. If things do not change I will be returning to Our Lady Academy, Manteno as Superior. This is not what I had planned, but I accept it as God's Will for me at present.

Please pray and ask God to bless my work there. As the years pass I see more clearly what a poor instrument I am in His hands. I asked Mother Rose Mary if she would relieve me of this charge but she says it is impossible right now. I feel that God has other things for me to do and I have spoken to Rev. Mother and

our Mother General but they both think it is impossible at the present time. Our Mother General has asked me to pray that God will send us more subjects. If we receive more subjects, then I will be able to do what I think God wants. I would give anything to speak to you, Father. It is hard to put in writing the things that are in my heart. At times I have no one to turn to and then I just throw myself into His arms and I am consoled. Mother Rose Mary suggested that I write to you some time ago but I just didn't, I don't know why.

I have, for two years now, had the feeling that God wants more penance & mortification from me. I have been making the Holy Hour from 11:00 to 12:00 P.M. every Thursday night for the past two years. One Thursday night when God seemed in a stronger way to be begging me for more I asked Him how this could be done? My superiors allow so much and no more. I had never thought of this before but that night when I asked Him, He seemed to answer "Carmel," and since then He seems to want it very much.

Since our Mother General has asked me

St. Patrick Academy

Momence, Illinois

to pray for vocations I have told God that if He really wants me to go to Carmel He will have to send us many vocations. In January there were five and this summer there are nine young ladies entering. I will do nothing for the next three years but if at the end of that time we receive vocations then don't you think I should take the step?

I have been working with a Jesuit Father for the last four years. I have spoken to him but he suggests that I wait.

I know that you know my soul better than anyone else & so I would appreciate very much knowing what you think.

I don't want you to think that I am unhappy. I'm very happy and more in love with Him than ever. It is just a case of giving Him what He seems to want. I have received many graces from Him as you already know and when He has asked things of me I have been sure of it. I am not the type of a person that imagines things. This has not upset me in the least and I accept

the decision of my Superiors as
God's decision for the present time.

I have spoken to no one about
this except Mother Rose Mary, our Mother
General and the Jesuit Father with whom
I have been working. I spoke to him
first and he told me to speak to my
Superiors.

When I heard that Father Julien was
going to California I was urged to
write to you.

I know you will tell me just what
you think - I have great confidence in
your opinion.

I do not forget you in my prayers
Father and I know you pray for me.

Sister M. Mediatrix has been in Mercy
hospital, ^{Chicago} for some weeks. The Doctors
fear that another operation will be
necessary.

I know that she would appreciate
hearing from you.

May I hear from you Father, please?
And now your priestly blessing, please.

Gratefully yours in Mary's Holy Heart,
Sister St Eugene S.S.C.M.

July 28, 1949

Pax Christi!

My Father in Christ.

Only our Lord knows how grateful I was for your visit of June 17th. It left me in great peace and consolation. Honestly, I was so grateful I actually felt ashamed of the little gratitude I show for our Lord's sacramental visits each day. Please ask Him to pardon me & to grant the desire I have to be like our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament: a living ciborium. I don't think I told you, but I was given the name of Ourism of Jesus and when I asked ~~how~~ what feast of hers I would have, Rev. Mother, (Seraphine who is now in Sacraments) left the room without telling me. In a moment she was back & said I would have Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament - she heard the words spoken to her distinctly.

My principal reason for writing this time is to tell you that Rev. Mother asked me if I would ~~like to~~ go on the foundation with her. (I know you know of it as she told me she had asked your prayers.) It seemed the most perfect thing so I said yes, and have not changed my mind since then. I am not

exactly enthusiastic as I see too clearly many
of the trials to be faced, but the thought
of our Lord keeps coming back to my mind, "I have
a baptism wherewith I am to be baptized, and
how am I straightened until it be accomplished."
I would like very much to have your ap-
proval and blessing on this decision as it
does not seem a small one to me. However if
you do not have time to write it is all right.
If it is only the difficulty of writing I shall
ask Father Luke to help you. (do you write
French? It is easy for me to read, although I
can't write it any more.)

Father, I can't help smiling at your predic-
tion that I would soon be Prioress. I am
safe from that for some time, as no doubt
the archbishop will appoint Rev. Mother, and
I'm going to ask the favor of being just plain
Sr. Mission & going back to my regular place in
choyter.

Oh, Father, the desire for suffering is very
strong at times. I would like to be saturated
with the sufferings of the Soul of Christ. But
when it comes to plain facts - I am just an
unprofitable servant.

I pray very much for you and oftentimes
offer Christ to the Father from the tabernacle of
your heart. I beg your blessing, your unworthy
child in Christ, Mission of Jesus S.C.M.

131 No. Catalina Ave
Redondo Beach, Calif
July 1949

My dear Fr. Aloysius,

It is not going to be easy to write this letter and I will make it as brief as possible, but I need spiritual guidance so very badly, that even at the risk of shocking you, I must give you an outline of an abused life, hoping you may be able to guide me from here.

I am the seventh child of a family of eleven children, eight of whom are boys. Mother only wanted one girl which was the fifth child, then my sister Delia came next, but she was so puny & delicate, mother felt sorry for her. I arrived after that, a great, big, bouncing girl and mother would have nothing to do with me. My father took me to his heart, which further displeased mother, so I grew up amidst a family, whom my mother cheered when I was ridiculed. I have gone to school striped like a zebra from the lashings I received at her hands, and I think now I mostly deserved them, for I fought her at every turn. When about seventeen I wanted to enter a convent, I arranged all the details myself and only told my mother one week ahead of my departure, with specific injunction not to tell the family for a few days. Next night at dinner I was the subject once more of sarcasm and jibe

from my older brothers & sisters, until in despair, I just tore my papers and abandoned my trip. I was very young, Father and very impulsive, also very much alone amongst my family.

Some years later I met a boy, whose father was as hard on him as mother was on me and I felt so sorry for him. We arranged to come to America, where he would have an opportunity to work, denied him at home, but when we came here, he did not work, nor did he want to, as I found out much later. I got a job immediately, but I was paying for my room & board and his room and his meals and I was not earning enough for that, so, feeling my responsibility, I married him, having in my ignorance, decided beforehand with him, not to have any children. Ten days after my marriage, I learned about my husband's family, where insanity abounded, even his mother had died insane and his brother was in an asylum. Steadily, for the four years of this marriage I watched my husband's growing malady, five times, only my own physical strength prevented my being killed by him, but eventually, Bill Noonan came back into my life, saw what the matter was, and this man was confined to hospital. Before continuing, I must here note that Bill was like a brother to me most of my years in Ireland, being the almost inseparable companion of my brother Frank and the pupil of my brother Michael for swimming. After leaving hospital my husband was worse, so on the doctor's

advice I took a place by the sea, helped by Bill. The day we moved, he went off on his own, and shortly after that I saw him on three occasions and I have not seen him now in twelve years, or more. I did not look for him very much, because I had grown so very nervous in his company. I went then to an Irish priest friend of mine, who in turn sent me to another, a Doctor of Divinity attached to the Chancery in New York. I explained everything, he said I was never married in the eyes of the church and that if I could get witnesses to prove my decision not to have children before I married, he thought I had a good chance for annulment. Fortunately the girls I worked with had been worried about the little "greenhorn" from Ireland and questioned me about this, so I had three, if not more witnesses. This good Father then told me, it would cost me two thousand dollars minimum for this annulment in the church and no matter how I pleaded with him, he would give me no other alternative. I left his office Father so very embittered and started on the path of self sufficiency, which ended only a year and a half ago. I went travelling, worked in Florida for nearly a year and while there got a divorce. The war had started, Bill was going, he asked me to marry him before he went overseas, I did and away he went. I lost our child after that through poverty mostly, Bill came back with war nerves, blacked-out when he drank, we had to come West for a change for him.

My brother came out from Ireland to get into Novice and found instead his vocation for the priesthood. We met Father Higgins, liked him at once, he led us both back to God and His Church. Since February 26th 1948, I have not lived with Bill as his wife, I have only missed three mornings at Mass and Communion through my own fault since May 26th 1948, when we both made our General Confession. We are consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in St Louis de Montfort way, as Her slaves and now we both want to make the final step nearer to Her, we want to be Contemplatives in any order that would accept us. Bill wants the Trappist and I don't think he will have much difficulty, I am the offender Father so, even if I am unworthy of so great an honour, I still want Bill to go, even though I love him, or to put that more clearly, because I love him. Is there any way you might be able to help, if so, want you please—

Sincerely yours in the Immaculate Heart
Mary Noonan

P.S. Excuse pencil, no pen available here.

M.H.